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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 17 and 27

Security Council
Sixty-second year

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 9 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In addition to my previous letters dated 28 June and 5 July 2007, I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM regarding the forthcoming "presidential elections" to be held on 19 July 2007 in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were urgently distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-42274 (E) 160707

Annex to the letter dated 9 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM

9 July 2007

The GUAM Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs expresses its deep concern over the reported intention of the separatist regime, created in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, to conduct so-called "presidential elections" on 19 July 2007.

The Council stresses that the conduct of so-called "elections" represents a serious violation of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as relevant norms and principles of international law. These "elections" shall be considered as null and void, and their results can not have any legal consequences.

The GUAM Council stresses that such an act shall not mislead the international community, since it runs contrary to the universally recognized standards and values of democracy, rule of law and human rights. This illegal act is aimed at creating a fait accompli situation in the conflict settlement, thus affecting negatively the ongoing peace negotiation process.

Legal elections can be held in the Nagorno-Karabakh region only after its reintegration into political, legal, social and economic system of the Republic of Azerbaijan, its full rehabilitation, return of displaced persons to the places of their permanent residence, restoration of transport communications and ensuring the peaceful coexistence and cooperation between the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities in this region.

The GUAM Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs calls on the international community to unequivocally condemn such an illegal act and to support the ongoing efforts aimed at finding a peaceful resolution of the conflict on the basis of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders.

United Nations A/61/1001

General Assembly

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12 July 2007

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Sixty-first session
Agenda items 67 and 98

Promotion and protection of human rights

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Letter dated 7 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you information regarding the measures being undertaken in the Republic of Uzbekistan towards the further liberalization of the penal system and to ensure the independence of the court-judicial system.

I would appreciate it if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly under agenda items 67 and 98.

(*Signed*) Alisher **Vohidov**
Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan

07-42429 (E) 170707 170707

Annex to the letter dated 7 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Information regarding the liberalization of the criminal justice system and strengthening of the independence of the courts in the Republic of Uzbekistan

Over the past few years a radically new strategy underpinning the legal and judicial system has been developed in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The most significant achievement in terms of liberalization of the system has been the adoption in 2005 of Presidential decrees on the abolition of the death penalty in Uzbekistan and on the transfer to the courts of the right to issue warrants for pretrial detention (habeas corpus).

In accordance with these Presidential decrees, as of 1 January 2008 the death penalty as the supreme form of punishment is to be abolished and the right to issue warrants for the pretrial detention of persons suspected or accused of committing crimes is to be transferred to the courts.

On 29 June 2007 the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan, at its tenth plenary session, adopted a law on amendments and additions to certain legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan in connection with the abolition of the death penalty.

The law provides for amendments and additions to the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Code of Criminal Enforcement of the Republic of Uzbekistan which eliminate the death penalty from the criminal justice system and replace it with a life sentence or prolonged term of imprisonment.

According to this law, a life sentence or prolonged term of imprisonment is to be applied in the case of two categories of offences: premeditated murder in aggravating circumstances and terrorism.

The law prohibits the application of these penalties to women, minors and men over the age of 60 years.

The Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan also adopted a law on amendments and additions to certain legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan in connection with the transfer to the courts of the right to issue warrants for pretrial detention.

This law establishes a judicial procedure for applying preventive measures in the form of pretrial detention and specifies the exceptional circumstances in which this preventive measure may be applied.

The law will strengthen the authority of the judiciary and increases the responsibility of prosecutorial and investigatory agencies in relation to pretrial detention while enhancing the effectiveness of judicial protection. The provisions of the law comply fully with the requirements of universally recognized democratic principles and international legal norms.

United Nations A/61/1002–S/2007/429

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
13 July 2007
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 13
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 11 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations from 1 to 7 July 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Permanent Representative

07-42482 (E) 180707 180707

Annex to the identical letters dated 11 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Subject: Israeli violations, acts of aggression and activities from 1 to 7 July 2007, inclusive

Air violations

On 1 July 2007, between 0839 hours and 1130 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Sidon heading in a northerly direction towards Juniyah, circled between Juniyah and Beirut, then headed south and departed over the sea off al-Naqurah.

Between 1201 hours and 1810 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off al-Naqurah, circled over areas in the south and then departed over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

Between 1710 hours and 2237 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Sidon heading in an easterly direction, circled over the town of Riyaq and its environs and then departed over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

On 2 July 2007 between 1304 hours and 1700 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea, circled over areas of the south and then departed over al-Naqurah.

On 3 July 2007 between 1152 hours and 1510 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off al-Naqurah, circled over areas of the south and then departed over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

Between 1240 hours and 1605 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off al-Zahrani, circled over areas of the south and then departed over al-Naqurah.

Between 1510 hours and 1800 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over 'Alma al-Sha'b, circled over areas of the south and then departed over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

On 4 July 2007 between 0805 hours and 1145 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off al-Naqurah, circled over areas of the south and then departed over al-Naqurah.

Between 1110 hours and 1248 hours an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off 'Adlun, circled over areas of the south and then departed over Kafr Killa.

On 5 July 2007 between 1054 hours and 1200 hours, two enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Dayr Mimas, circled over all regions of Lebanon and then departed over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

Between 1310 hours and 1645 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre, circled over areas of the south and then departed over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

On 6 July 2007 between 0908 hours and 1210 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off al-Bayyadhah, circled over areas of the south and then departed over al-Naqurah.

Between 1032 hours and 1115 hours, four enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the occupied Shab'a farmlands, circled over the south, Shouf, and western Bekaa and then departed over the sea off al-Naqurah.

Between 1158 hours and 1505 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off al-Naqurah in an easterly direction, circled over areas of the south and then departed over al-Naqurah.

Sea violations

None.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 5 July 2007 between 1420 hours and 1500 hours, from the Radar outpost inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands, Israeli enemy forces fired a number of rounds from medium-calibre machine guns towards the area surrounding the outpost.

Israeli activities

On 4 July 2007 the Ghanaian unit reported that at 0830 hours five elements from the enemy Israeli army bearing M16 rifles approached when the gate was opened at border point B30 (west of 'Aita al-Sha'b). They crossed the technical fence at the gate for a period of four minutes (because of a suspicious object, according to the claim of the enemy), then returned and closed the gate without crossing the Blue Line while the Ghanaian patrol was present in the area.

United Nations A/61/1003–S/2007/433

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
16 July 2007

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 13 and 14

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 16 July 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Acting Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement by the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, adopted on Saturday, 14 July 2007 (see annex).

Furthermore, I request you kindly to circulate the above-mentioned document as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13 and 14, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rodolfo **Benítez Versón**
Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations
Acting Chair of the Coordinating Bureau
of the Non-Aligned Movement

07-42665 (E) 190707

Annex to the letter dated 16 July 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in New York has been monitoring the recent developments and the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. NAM expresses its grave concern about the dire security, humanitarian, socio-economic and political situation prevailing in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent rise in suffering and hardships for the Palestinian people.

NAM condemns the prolonged Israeli military occupation of the Palestinian Territory since 1967 and expresses grave concern over the distressing developments in the recent period. For four decades, Israel, the occupying Power, has been unrelentingly violating international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, in its actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. During this time, the occupying Power has been committing grave human rights violations against the Palestinian people, including reported war crimes. Moreover, for four decades, the occupying Power has carried out deliberate and unlawful policies and practices aimed at altering the demographic composition, character and nature of the Palestinian land and at de facto annexing that land, particularly via the implementation of its illegal colonial settlement policy and, since 2003, its illegal construction of a wall in the West Bank, including in and around East Jerusalem. In addition, the occupying Power continues to impose a humiliating and discriminatory network of checkpoints throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, to impose closures, to seal off the Gaza Strip, and to carry out intense military raids and incursions in Palestinian population centres, causing extensive loss of life and injury to Palestinian civilians and widespread destruction of property.

NAM condemns all such illegal actions by Israel, the occupying Power, and calls for their immediate cessation. Furthermore, NAM believes that these illegal Israeli actions, including ongoing military attacks, have seriously undermined the functioning of the Palestinian Authority and have undoubtedly contributed to the growing polarization in the Palestinian society.

NAM also condemns the recent criminal actions that were carried out in the Gaza Strip. NAM calls for urgent efforts to be undertaken in order to avoid the complete disintegration of the foundations of a future sovereign, viable, independent Palestinian State and to rehabilitate and develop Palestinian institutions.

Further, NAM calls for the restoration of the situation in the Gaza Strip to that which existed prior to the recent events and for measures to be taken to preserve the territorial unity and integrity of the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. In this regard, NAM stresses the necessity for the mobilization of Palestinian capabilities to end the occupation and to achieve the Palestinian national goal. NAM calls upon the Palestinian leadership, the leaders of all factions and all Palestinians

to unite in support of the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, and his Government and all democratically elected Palestinian institutions and to resolve their political differences by peaceful means. In this regard, NAM supports national dialogue among Palestinians to achieve national reconciliation. Further in this regard, NAM reaffirms its position that the Palestine Liberation Organization remains the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and remains an essential party to any negotiations aimed at resolving the conflict.

NAM calls upon the parties to urgently resume peace process negotiations on all tracks on the basis of international law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the principle of land for peace and the Arab Peace Initiative in order to comprehensively resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole. In this regard, NAM reaffirms its support for all peaceful efforts aimed at ending Israel's 40-year occupation of the Palestinian land and the achievement of a final and peaceful settlement to the question of Palestine with the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and a just solution to the plight of the Palestine refugees. The member States of the NAM express their continuing and firm support for a peaceful settlement and call upon the international community to exert concrete and positive steps towards this goal.

United Nations A/61/1004–S/2007/441

General Assembly
Security Council

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20 July 2007

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 27, 33 49, 50, 51, 55, 69 (a), 98 and 99

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Sport for peace and development

Information and communication technologies for development

Macroeconomic policy questions

Globalization and interdependence

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Crime prevention and criminal justice

International drug control

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 17 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in my capacity as Permanent Representative of the country chairing the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), to transmit summary information on the outcomes of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of CIS, which was held in Kazakhstan on 25 April 2007 (see annex I) and the meeting of the Council of Heads of Government of CIS, which was held in Ukraine on 25 May 2007 (see annex II).

07-43308 (E) 300707 310707

I would appreciate it if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 27, 33, 49, 50, 51, 55, 69 (a), 98 and 99, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Byrganym **Aitimova**

Annex I to the letter dated 17 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Information on the outcome of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Commonwealth of Independent States

The regular meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was held on 25 April 2007 in Astana (the Republic of Kazakhstan).

The official delegations of all 12 Commonwealth member States took part in the meeting. It was chaired by the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Marat Mukhanbetkazievich Tazhin.

In the course of the meeting, two documents were agreed and submitted for consideration to the Council of Heads of State and seven documents for consideration to the Council of Heads of Government. A total of 17 items were included on the agenda for the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The participants in the meeting discussed and approved the draft agenda for the regular meeting of the CIS Council of Heads of Government.

The results of cooperation within the framework of the multi-level consultations among Foreign Ministries in 2006 and the plan for holding them in 2007 were discussed at the meeting. The reports on the activities of the CIS Cultural Cooperation Council and the Inter-State Council on Natural and Man-Made Emergency Situations were considered.

These Councils are some of the most active and effective bodies for sectoral cooperation by CIS member States. The Cultural Cooperation Council conducted 21 meetings, which were held in almost all the CIS member States. At its meetings, the Council considered approximately 300 questions concerning prospects for cooperation in the field of culture and the creation of favourable conditions for developing cultural ties and cultural exchanges.

The Council's further activities are to focus on solving existing problems, including improving the treaty and legal basis for activities, searching for new forms of and mechanisms for cooperation, implementing joint creative projects, holding joint forums, festivals and conferences, developing the joint production of films, and restoring old and establishing new creative links among the Commonwealth States.

The Inter-State Council on Natural and Man-Made Emergency Situations is also working successfully. In the course of its work, the Council has held 20 meetings, at which approximately 480 issues were discussed. The Commonwealth's highest bodies adopted 18 documents at the Council's initiative or with its participation.

Approximately 60 documents were adopted by the Council. Intersectoral cooperation with councils on health care, hydrometeorology and industrial safety

and the Coordination Council on the Problems of Disaster Medicine is being developed.

In accordance with a decision by the Council, since 1998 specialists from the Ministries for Emergency Situations of CIS member States have been trained at the base of the Civil Protection Academy and the Fire Safety Academy of the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations. Since 2003, rescue workers have been trained at the base of the Institute for Retraining and Advanced Training under the Belarus Ministry for Emergency Situations.

Three working structures were set up and are in operation under the Council: the CIS Corps of Forces to Eliminate the Consequences of Natural and Man-Made Emergency Situations, which is composed of 363 emergency rescue and special equipment units and 2,052 specialist rescue workers from CIS member States; the Scientific Council on the Problems of Preventing and Eliminating Emergency Situations; and the CIS Agency for the Monitoring and Forecasting of Emergency Situations.

Three draft documents on the agenda were discussed upon the proposal of the Council of Border Troop Commanders.

A draft protocol on approving the regulations on the organization of cooperation by the border and other agencies of CIS member States in providing assistance in the occurrence and for the resolution (elimination) of crisis situations on external borders was adopted. The regulations define the bases for the organization of and a mechanism for cooperation, the procedure for carrying out joint measures and resolving disputes, as well as the legal status of the group.

A draft decision on introducing the "Honourable CIS border guard" lapel badge of the Council of Border Troop Commanders was considered and approved.

The question of the draft decision on approving the regulations on grants from the Council of Border Troop Commanders for auditors and students from the educational institutions of CIS member States' border agencies is also of no small importance. Fifty auditors and students from the higher educational institutions of the border agencies of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine have already received such grants (on average, 7 to 10 persons per academic year).

In 2006, 53,000 Russian rubles were awarded to grant recipients, and, for 2007, it is estimated that expenditures for this purpose will amount to 78,000 rubles (nine candidates).

Two agenda items concerned the Collective Peacekeeping Forces (CPF) in the Commonwealth.

A document was considered and approved, which had been drawn up for the purpose of ensuring the security and protection of the personnel of the Collective Peacekeeping Forces in conducting peacekeeping operations in the territories of CIS member States and which provides for a set of measures aimed at maintaining the Forces in a state of combat readiness and creating favourable conditions enabling them to carry out the assigned tasks of their mission as well as strengthening the social and legal protection of the Forces' personnel and the members of their families.

At the same time, the proposal by the Council of Ministers of Defence to extend the mandate of the CPF commander in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia, Major General Sergei Jakovlevich Chaban, pending agreement by the Council of Foreign Ministers on the candidacy of the CPF commander in the conflict zone, was not supported by the Georgian party.

A draft decision by the Council of Heads of Government on the establishment of a council of directors of State and public television and radio organizations of CIS member States was also approved at the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in order to ensure interaction and cooperation on the part of Commonwealth member States in the area of television and radio broadcasting, the strengthening of good-neighbourly relations among peoples, and the development of a common CIS information space.

At its meeting, the Council of Foreign Ministers considered a draft agreement on the training of personnel for the internal affairs agencies (police) and internal security troops of the CIS member States. The agreement is designed to ensure a high level of personnel training for the internal affairs agencies (police) and internal security troops that meets the challenges and threats of the contemporary world and to create effective mechanisms for cooperation in this area.

The adoption of the decision to grant the Retraining and Advanced Training Institute under the Belarus Ministry for Emergency Situations the status of the basic organization of the CIS member States for training personnel in the prevention and elimination of emergency situations will make it possible to strengthen its status legally in view of the fact that approximately 300 specialists from all CIS States (except Georgia and the Republic of Uzbekistan) have received retraining and advanced training at the Institute's base since 2003.

The decisions adopted to approve the regulations on the basic organization of the CIS member States for the training and retraining of personnel for the tax (financial) investigation agencies and to grant the Economic Security Academy of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Financial Police Academy of the Kazakhstan Agency for Combating Economic and Corruption-related Crime (the financial police) the status of the basic Commonwealth organizations for the training and retraining of personnel for those agencies will make it possible to train highly qualified specialists in combating economic crimes for the tax (financial) investigation agencies of the CIS member States.

At its meeting, the Council of Foreign Ministers also approved the draft decision on the recommendations of the Consultative Committee of the Legal Services Directors of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the CIS member States.

In addition, a group of CIS member States adopted a statement on the situation regarding the Soldier-Liberator Monument in Tallinn. The statement expressed profound concern in connection with the plans of the Government of Estonia to transfer the burial site of the soldiers of different nationalities who had given their lives for the liberation of Europe from fascism and to dismantle the Monument. The hope was also expressed that the Government of Estonia would demonstrate a respectful attitude towards history and the memory of the fallen warriors.

Annex II to the letter dated 17 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Information on the outcome of the meeting of the Council of Heads of Government of the Commonwealth of Independent States

The regular meeting of the Council of Heads of Government of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was held on 25 May 2007 in Yalta (Ukraine) in the Livadia Palace. The official delegations of all 12 Commonwealth member States took part in the meeting.

Twenty-four documents were adopted at the CIS Council of Heads of Government meeting.

The Agreement on the formation of a common electrical energy market for the CIS member States was one of the major items on the Council's agenda.

The formation of a CIS common electrical energy market will make it possible to increase the volume of trade in electrical energy, ensure the reliability of the electrical energy supply and the quality of service provided to consumers, optimize the use of fuel-energy and hydropower resources in the electrical power industry and harmonize the processes of reforming the electrical energy sector in the Commonwealth States.

The main objective of the set of joint CIS measures considered by the heads of State for preventing the emergence and spread of bird flu in the territories of the CIS member States is to join forces to prevent its emergence and spread there and to minimize the economic damage caused by possible outbreaks of bird flu by means of speedy containment and elimination.

Ensuring security is one of the priority areas for cooperation within the Commonwealth. The Council's agenda included consideration of the question of drawing up draft inter-State programmes of joint measures to combat crime and illegal trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors for the period 2008-2010.

Two agenda items concerned the Collective Peacekeeping Forces (CPF) in the Commonwealth. Documents were considered and approved which had been drawn up for the purpose of ensuring the security and protection of CPF personnel in conducting peacekeeping operations in the territories of CIS countries and which provide for a set of measures aimed at maintaining the Forces in a state of combat readiness and creating favourable conditions enabling them to carry out the assigned tasks of their mission as well as strengthening the social and legal protection of the Forces' personnel and the members of their families.

The heads of Government also considered a draft agreement on the training of personnel for the internal affairs agencies (police) and internal security troops of the CIS member States. The agreement is designed to ensure a high level of personnel training for the internal affairs agencies (police) and internal security troops that meets the challenges and threats of the contemporary world and to create effective mechanisms for cooperation in this area.

The adoption of the decision to grant the Institute for Retraining and Advanced Training under the Belarus Ministry for Emergency Situations the status of the basic organization of the CIS member States for training personnel in the prevention and elimination of emergency situations will make it possible to strengthen its status legally in view of the fact that approximately 300 specialists from all CIS States (except Georgia and the Republic of Uzbekistan) have received retraining and advanced training at the Institute's base since 2003.

The decisions adopted to approve the regulations on the basic organization of the CIS member States for the training and retraining of personnel for the tax (financial) investigation agencies and to grant the Economic Security Academy of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Financial Police Academy of the Kazakhstan Agency for Combating Economic and Corruption-related Crime (the financial police) the status of the basic Commonwealth organizations for the training and retraining of personnel for those agencies will make it possible to train highly qualified specialists in combating economic crimes for the tax (financial) investigation agencies of the CIS member States.

The decision adopted on approving the regulations on grants from the Council of Border Troop Commanders for auditors and students from the educational institutions of CIS member States' border agencies is also of no small importance. Fifty auditors and students from the higher educational institutions of the border agencies of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine have already received such grants (on average, 7 to 10 persons per academic year).

In 2006, 53,000 Russian rubles were awarded to grant recipients, and, for 2007, it is estimated that expenditures for this purpose will amount to 78,000 rubles (nine candidates).

A draft decision by the Council of Heads of Government on the establishment of a council of directors of State and public television and radio organizations of CIS member States was also approved at the meeting in order to ensure interaction and cooperation on the part of CIS member States in the area of television and radio broadcasting, the strengthening of good-neighbourly relations among peoples, and the development of a common CIS information space.

The Agreement of the CIS member States on cooperation in the area of physical training and sport also relates to the field of humanitarian cooperation. The implementation of its provisions will promote the development of equitable, mutually advantageous cooperation in the field of physical training and sport through the State agencies of the parties, national Olympic committees, national sport federations (alliances and associations), and international, regional and other physical-training and sport organizations and associations and support their initiatives aimed at the effective development of physical training, sport and the Olympic movement.

The question of holding the VII International Sporting Games of the CIS member States in 2008 in Chisinau, placed on the agenda by Moldova, was a further "athletic" agenda item. The initiative received support within the Council of Heads of Government.

The agenda also included a number of items relating to cooperation in the field of education. For example, the draft agreement on cooperation in the field of the

advanced training and professional retraining of specialists provides for granting citizens permanently residing in the territories of the parties equal rights to advanced training and professional retraining and for promoting the development of direct links and the exchange of work experience among educational institutions engaged in the advanced training and professional retraining of specialists.

There has long been a need to take measures to regulate and monitor the quality of educational activities, including the licensing, certification and State accreditation of educational institutions and also the recognition of State documents. Such measures are also provided for in the draft agreement.

Two agenda items relate to the activities of the Inter-State Humanitarian Cooperation Fund of the CIS member States.

Draft documents define the shared participation by States in supporting the Fund's Executive Board as well as a mechanism establishing the level of remuneration of the Fund's Executive Director and the Board's staff.

The Commonwealth heads of Government also took decisions on the dates and venue of their next meeting. The proposal by Turkmenistan to hold the next regular meeting on 22 November 2007 in Ashgabat was adopted.

Ukraine undertook the chairmanship of the Council of Heads of Government in the person of that country's Prime Minister, Victor Fedorovich Janukovich.

United Nations A/61/1005

General Assembly

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18 July 2007

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 65
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Letter dated 17 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I am writing with reference to the letter dated 10 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea addressed to you, which has been circulated as a document of the General Assembly (A/61/236), and in which unilateral and groundless allegations are made and facts are distorted.

It should hardly be necessary to point out that fundamental human rights are guaranteed under the Constitution of Japan for all foreign residents in Japan as well as for Japanese people, and there can be no discrimination against the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan or any other organization in any civil or criminal procedure.

Attached in the annex is more detailed explanation regarding the allegations made in the letter of the Permanent Representative of DPRK. Japan is against the request by DPRK.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 65.

(*Signed*) Kenzo **Oshima**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

07-43068 (E) 190707

Annex to the letter dated 17 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Background

(1) Search of a Korean printing house by Japanese police

In June 1974, two siblings in Japan were abducted and in this connection about 30 years later, it turned out in the police investigation that the person suspected in the abduction case was a member of a subsidiary organization of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan ("Chongryon"; the umbrella organization of Korean residents in Japan with close association with the DPRK). Subsidiary organizations located in the Korean Press Hall were searched by the Japanese police with search warrants as required by Japanese law in order to collect evidence related to the suspected abduction. The search was therefore done legally and properly and involved no illegal action of any kind and no violence or threats were engaged.

(2) Auctioning off of the building and land owned by Chongryon

The DPRK-affiliated credit unions in Japan are domestic financial institutions established under Japanese law for the purpose of providing banking services to Korean residents in Japan. Between 1997 and 2001, 16 of those credit unions declared bankruptcy due to large numbers of non-performing loans that were made, inter alia, to Chongryon. (During those years, due to the collapse of the country's "bubble economy," numerous financial institutions in Japan went bankrupt, and some DPRK-affiliated credit unions met the same fate.)

In order to protect bona fide depositors of those credit unions facing bankruptcy, the Japanese authorities spent more than 1.3 trillion yen (approximately $11 billion) in government funds, on a non-discriminatory basis.

As part of recovery measures, the Resolution and Collection Corporation (RCC; a corporation established by a public organization to collect non-performing loans of bankrupt financial institutions in Japan) purchased the non-performing assets of the bankrupt DPRK-affiliated credit unions using public funds, while other efforts were made to recover the enormous amount of government funds that were injected into the DPRK-affiliated credit unions. This was carried out in exactly the same manner as for any other bankrupt domestic financial institution.

Among the non-performing assets of the bankrupt DPRK-affiliated credit unions, there were loans to Chongryon, which Chongryon formally acknowledged as the debt incurred by the loan contracts in the amount totalling approximately 63 billion yen (approx. $530 million). In November 2005, the RCC initiated a lawsuit against Chongryon seeking repayment of the loans in the Tokyo District Court in the context of its debt recovery measures. In June 2007, the Court handed down a judgment calling for repayment of the approximately 63 billion yen in loans. Chongryon did not appeal this judgment to a higher court.

Up to the time that the judgment was delivered, the RCC continued consultations with Chongryon regarding payment of the debts, but Chongryon indicated its intention to pay only a very small part of the total. In the circumstances, the RCC had no choice but to file a petition to auction off the building and land belonging to Chongryon in accordance with the normal required

legal procedures, on 25 June 2007. (It is the regular practice of the RCC to file a petition to auction off real estate as a means of collecting non-performing loans that it has purchased from other bankrupt financial institutions in Japan. Indeed, the RCC filed approximately 1,800 such petitions in the fiscal year 2006.) The petition to auction the building and land owned by Chongryon was for the purpose of collecting debt, and not for any political or diplomatic purpose.

Allegations by DPRK and facts

(1) Search by the Japanese police on a subsidiary organization of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon)

Allegation: "On 25 April 2007, Japanese police authorities enforced a fascist search inside the Korean printing house by more than 300 armed policemen, while deploying 15 large armoured buses and 42 patrol cars to the scene."

Facts: On 25 April 2007, Japanese police conducted a search on a subsidiary organization of Chongryon located in the Korean Press Hall. Before the search was conducted, Japanese police obtained a search warrant from the appropriate court to collect evidence related to the suspected abduction. Japanese police searched the building legally and properly. They took no illegal action of any kind, and engaged in no violence or threats.

Riot police units, buses and patrol cars were deployed as the necessary protection since in cases involving Chongryon physical, illegal obstructions are sometimes encountered by the concerned people, preventing the appropriate search.

Japanese police have been taking strict measures against illegal acts on the basis of law and solid evidence, regardless of whether there was any connection with the DPRK or Chongryon. The police will continue to take strict measures against illegal acts, and the activities of the police will not be affected by the international situation regarding the DPRK.

(2) RCC measures against Chongryon

Allegation: "Japanese authorities went further, the more to force Chongryon to sell land and building of the Hall of its headquarters, in an ill-minded attempt to exterminate Chongryon at any cost." "This is nothing but a wanton infringement upon the sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

Facts: The DPRK assertion that the petition by the RCC for the building and land owned by Chongryon was an infringement upon the sovereignty of the DPRK is totally unfounded and unreasonable. As mentioned above, the petition to auction the land and building of the hall of the headquarters of Chongryon was for the purpose of collecting and recovering the debt, and unrelated to any political or diplomatic purpose.

The RCC will continue to conduct its collection activities based strictly on the relevant domestic laws and on the basis of fairness and justice. The statement of the DPRK on this matter wilfully distorts the facts and casts aspersion on the perfectly legitimate activities of the RCC. The fault in the matter lies with Chongryon, with its debt obligations to the RCC.

(3) Legal status of Korean residents in Japan

Allegation: "Repression of the Organization of Koreans in Japan and Koreans by Japanese authorities dates back far beyond recent days. During the last several decades, human rights violations by Japanese authorities, such as political suppression of Chongryon, national discrimination, violence against and maltreatment of Koreans in Japan, never ceased a single day. Thereafter, Japan became a subject of serious concern to human rights treaty bodies of the United Nations to which Japan is a State party."

"[The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination] said that 'although Koreans are no longer required legally or administratively, to change their names to a Japanese name, the Committee expresses its concern that Japanese authorities reportedly continue to urge such changes and that Koreans feel obliged to do so for fear of discrimination'".

"Moreover, the Human Rights Committee (HRC), the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) also expressed their respective grave concern over the Japanese 'refusal to recognize Korean schools' in Japan (HRC, sixty-fourth session), 'unequal treatment with regard to access to higher education by Korean students' (CRC, eighteenth session)".

Facts: The Government of Japan has taken measures to ensure Korean residents in Japan to lead normal lives, including granting them the appropriate legal status to remain in Japan and improving conditions that affect their lives. The Constitution of Japan guarantees equality before the law without discrimination of any kind. Based on this principle, Japan has striven to realize a society free from all forms of discrimination, including racial and ethnic discrimination, in the 60 years since the end of the Second World War. (For example, the Government of Japan does not urge foreign residents in Japan to convert their names to Japanese names. Nor does it urge residents in Japan applying for Japanese citizenship to do so. In fact, the Government of Japan extensively informs applicants that they may freely determine their names after naturalization.)

The Constitution of Japan also stipulates that all people, including Korean residents in Japan, shall have the right to receive an equal education, and that, if he/she so wishes, any foreign child may attend a public elementary or junior high school for free, just as a Japanese child does. With regard to entering a college or university, all students including Korean school graduates who meet the standards set by individual institutions are eligible to do so.

The Government of Japan has acceded to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and other major international human rights instruments and conventions, and has been making sincere efforts for their implementation.

The Government of Japan proactively engages in activities in a variety of United Nations forums aimed at the elimination of racial discrimination.

(4) Reports of media in Japan

Allegation: "Japanese authorities, at the same time, set in motion reptile media to float various kinds of false reports aimed at tarnishing the image of Chongryon in a bid to frantically incite bitterness towards the DPRK and Chongryon in its society."

Facts: The Government of Japan is aware that there were a number of reports in the Japanese press on the aforementioned case. However, freedom of speech along with other freedoms is fully guaranteed by its Constitution, and it is not conceivable that the Government of Japan "set in motion" the release of those reports.

(5) Security Council reform

Allegation: "The DPRK cannot remain unconcerned at such inhumane behaviour by Japanese authorities, particularly because Japan invaded the Asian countries and committed a massacre of millions of innocent people, but has been distorting its aggressive history instead of liquidating it and seeks a permanent membership of the Security Council of the United Nations."

Facts: With regard to Japan's position on Security Council reform, it has been publicly stated many times in the United Nations and other forums, and is well known. Japan stands ready to contribute actively and positively to international peace and security at any time.

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The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 20 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In addition to my previous letters of 28 June, 5 July (A/61/991-S/2007/410) and 9 July 2007 (A/61/1000-S/2007/422), I have the honour to draw your attention to the reaction of the international community to the so-called "presidential elections" in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which were held on 19 July 2007.

The Co-Chairs of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group observed with concern in their statement of 13 July 2007 that the so-called "presidential elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh have already caused an increase in tensions and do not contribute to the preparation of the populations for peace. The Co-Chairs reiterated that like all other members of the international community, the co-chairing countries (France, Russian Federation and United States) do not recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent state and that such "elections" should not have any impact on the peaceful settlement of the conflict (see annex).

The Organization of the Islamic Conference reiterated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and expressed its rejection of these "elections", which represent a grave violation of the norms and principles of international law and interfere with the ongoing peace process. The Organization of the Islamic Conference underscored that neither this act nor its results have any legal effect (see enclosure I).

All three institutions of the European Union — the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission's Special Envoy to the Republic of Azerbaijan — denounced these "presidential elections", underlining that they do not recognize legitimacy of this act. It was also emphasized that these

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"elections" should not have any impact on the peaceful settlement of the conflict (see enclosures II-IV).

Other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe and NATO, as well as countries including the United States, France, Norway, Turkey, Ukraine, Latvia and others, have expressed their condemnation of the "elections" and their results.

It is the strong belief of my Government that these "elections" are of a provocative nature and cannot be considered legal, nor will they contribute to the international mediation efforts aimed at the peaceful settlement of the conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law, including Security Council resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993). Any future elections can be conducted only with the participation of both the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 20 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Excerpt from the statement by the Co-Chairmen of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group (Ambassador Yury Merzlyakov of Russia, Ambassador Bernard Fassier of France and Ambassador Matthew Bryza of the United States) issued in Vienna on 13 July 2007

"6. ... The upcoming so-called presidential elections in Nagorno-Karabakh have already caused an increase in tensions. Recalling their statements with respect to previous votings in Nagorno-Karabakh, the Co-Chairs reiterate that, like all other members of the international community, their countries do not recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent state, and such 'elections' should not have any impact on the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Finally, the Co-Chairs stress the primary role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group in mediation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. They note that unilateral initiatives in other organizations can increase tensions and disrupt the negotiation process. Therefore, they urge the sides to focus their attention in the coming months on making real progress in the negotiations mediated by the Minsk Group Co-Chairmen."

Enclosure I

Press release

The OIC Secretary-General rejects the so-called "presidential elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh

The Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu has expressed the OIC's rejection of the so-called "presidential elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The so-called "elections" gravely violate relevant norms and principles of international law, and interfere with an ongoing peace process. This act and its results therefore have no legal effect.

The OIC fully recognizes the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In compliance with the relevant OIC documents, including the Islamabad Declaration, adopted by the 34th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, the Organization of the Islamic Conference once again strongly condemns the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan and urges immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Armenian occupying forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

Any constitutional document envisaging a self-rule for the population of the Nagorno-Karabakh region can only be elaborated through a legal, democratic, and peaceful process with a full, equal, and direct participation of the entire population of the region consisting of the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities.

Jeddah, 19th July 2007

Enclosure II

Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the "presidential elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh on 19 July 2007

Date: 2007-07-20

The EU is aware that "presidential elections" have taken place in Nagorno-Karabakh on 19 July 2007. The EU underlines that it does not recognize the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh. Neither does it recognize the legitimacy of these "presidential elections", which should not have any impact on the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Furthermore, the EU recalls that refugees and internally-displaced persons should be given the right to a safe, secure and dignified return of their homes in order to fully participate in electoral acts.

The EU reiterates its firm support to the OSCE Minsk-Group and its Co-Chairmen, and their efforts towards a settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The EU urges the parties concerned to intensify their efforts to find a negotiated solution to the conflict.

"The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this declaration.

* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process."

Enclosure III

European Parliament

Delegation to the EU-Armenia, EU-Georgia, EU-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committees

- The Chair -

Statement

by Mrs. Marie Anne ISLER BÉGUIN, MEP

on the "presidential elections" held in Nagorno-Karabakh, on 19 July 2007

Brussels, 20 July 2007. The European Parliament delegation to EU-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee does not recognise the so-called "presidential elections" that were held in Nagorno-Karabakh on 19 July 2007. It considers that no legitimate elections can be held in this region until all refugees and internally displaced persons are given the right to return in safety and dignity to their homes and are able to vote.

It supports the resumption of negot...tions between Armenia and Azerbaijan and stresses that the final status of Nagorno-Karabakh must be resolved through peaceful negotiations and according to the international law.

It stresses that the significant changes, which have taken place recently in the region, have given rise to a sense of optimism that the territorial conflicts can be resolved without recourse to violence. With the inclusion of Armenia and Azerbaijan in the European Neighbourhood Policy of the European Union and the beginning of implementation of its Action Plan, new hopes and perspectives have arisen for a resolution of this long-lasting problem.

Thus, it urges the two sides to show a clear commitment to find a viable solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh protracted stalemate.

Enclosure IV

Council of Europe

Press release - 511 (2007)

Chair of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers: Declaration on the "presidential elections" to be held in Nagorno Karabakh on 19 July 2007

Strasbourg, 12 July 2007 – "As regards the 'presidential elections' to be organised in Nagorno Karabakh on 19 July 2007, and having in mind that neither the 'elections' nor their results are recognised by the international community, the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe reiterates its full support to the OSCE Minsk Group and its Co-Chairmen in their efforts towards a settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. It notes with concern that conducting such 'elections', thus pre-empting the outcome of the ongoing negotiations, cannot contribute to the resolution of the conflict. It calls on all parties concerned to intensify their efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict, in accordance with the commitment undertaken by Armenia and Azerbaijan upon accession to the Council of Europe".

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 19 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations committed from 8 to 15 July 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Permanent Representative

07-43459 (E) 250707 260707

Annex to the identical letters dated 19 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 8 to 15 July 2007, inclusive

Air violations

On 9 July 2007:

- Between 1015 and 1405 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre, circled over Beirut, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
- Between 1050 and 1145 hours two Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the Shab'a Farms, circled over the South, Shikka, Beirut, Baalbek and Hirmil, then left over the sea off Tripoli;
- Between 1335 and 1730 hours an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre heading north, circled over Beirut, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
- Between 1700 and 2040 hours an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah heading north, circled over Beirut, then left over the sea off Naqurah.

On 10 July 2007:

- Fourteen Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, as follows:
  - Between 1255 and 1300 hours 2 aircraft entered over Rumaysh heading north, proceeded as far as Tyre, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
  - Between 1310 and 1340 hours 4 aircraft entered over Naqurah heading north, circled over the Baalbek, Hirmil, Riyaq, Shikka and Al-Arz (the Cedars) regions, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
  - Between 1312 and 1330 hours 2 aircraft entered over Rumaysh heading north, circled over the Baalbek, Hirmil, Riyaq, Shikka and Al-Arz (the Cedars) regions, then left over the sea off Tripoli;
  - Between 1314 and 1330 hours 2 aircraft entered over the Shab'a Farms heading north, circled over the South regions, then left over Aytarun;
  - Between 1316 and 1330 hours 2 aircraft entered over the sea off Batrun heading east, circled over the Baalbek, Hirmil, Riyaq, Shikka and Al-Arz (the Cedars) regions, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
  - Between 1318 and 1340 hours 2 aircraft entered over the sea off Batrun heading east, circled over the Baalbek, Hirmil, Riyaq, Shikka and Al-Arz (the Cedars) regions, then left over the sea off Naqurah;
- Between 1410 and 1805 hours an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah, circled over the regions of the South, then left over the same place where it had entered;

- Between 1755 and 2150 hours an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre, circled over the regions of the South, then left over Naqurah;

- At 2210 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Damur, circled over Alayh, Beirut and Damur, then left over Naqurah at 0050 hours on 11 July 2007.

On 11 July 2007:

- Between 0950 and 1045 hours 2 Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Shikka, circled over Baalbek and Hirmil, then left over 'Alma al-Sha'b;

- Between 0955 and 1015 hours 2 Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre, circled between Al-Arz (the Cedars) and Shikka, then left over the sea off Naqurah;

- Between 1100 and 1200 hours 2 Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre, circled over all the regions of Lebanon, then left over 'Alma al-Sha'b;

- Between 1514 and 1800 hours an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh, circled over Baalbek and Riyaq, then left over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

On 12 July 2007:

- Between 1230 and 1235 hours 4 Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh heading north, proceeded as far as a point east of Tyre, then left over the sea off Naqurah;

- Between 1305 and 1315 hours 2 Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa heading north, proceeded as far as the Qalamoun region, then left over the sea off Tripoli;

- Between 1350 and 1420 hours 2 Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Shikka heading south, proceeded to a point west of Jounieh, headed north to a point west of Shikka and from there headed south, then left over 'Alma al-Sha'b.

Sea violations

On 10 July 2007, at 2230 hours, the Israeli enemy fired a flare at 2 Lebanese fishing boats that were 250 metres from the buoy line.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 10 July 2007, at 1429 hours, as the young man Mahir Hamdan was grazing his cattle in the area outside the village of Shab'a, a five-member Israeli enemy force crossed the separation line to a distance of 150 metres and proceeded to apprehend him and lead him inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, returning him to liberated territory 30 minutes after he was apprehended.

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 19 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I hereby inform you that on 13 June 2007, Israeli enemy forces carried out an ambush composed of five elements on the outskirts of the town of Kafr Shuba, inside Lebanese territory.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-43465 (E) 240707 240707

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Identical letters dated 20 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical annex showing the Israeli violations that occurred during May 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Permanent Representative

07-43471 (E) 260707 260707

Annex to the identical letters dated 20 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Table showing air violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*	*Comments*
01/05/2007	0924	Four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tripoli heading east, proceeded as far as Baalbek, circled over the Baalbek and Hirmil regions, then headed south. They left over Naqurah at 0945 hours.	
	0954	Four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over occupied Shab'a Farms heading north, proceeded as far as the Western Bekaa and circled over the areas of the Western Bekaa and the South. They left over the sea off Naqurah at 1005 hours.	
	1230	Two warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the occupied Shab'a Farms heading north, proceeded as far as Shikka, headed south, then north as far as Dahr al-Baydar and east to Hirmil, then circled between Hirmil and the South. They left over the occupied Shab'a Farms at 1355 hours.	
02/05/2007	0745	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre heading east, then circled over Sidon and Iqlim al-Kharrub. It left over 'Alma al-Sha'b at 1205 hours.	
	1200	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b heading north, and circled over the South. It left over Alma al-Sha'b at 1410 hours.	
	1355	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Al-Bayada heading east, and circled over the South. It left over Alma al-Sha'b at 1730 hours.	
	1410	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b, and circled over the South. It left Lebanese airspace over Alma al-Sha'b.	
	1535	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Sidon heading north-east, proceeded as far as Riyaq and circled over Riyaq and its outlying areas; it then headed south as far as Bint Jubayl and circled over the South and Beirut. It left over the sea off Naqurah at 1900 hours.	

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*	*Comments*
	1730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Al-Bayada, and circled over the South. It left Lebanese airspace over `Alma al-Sha`b.	
	1859	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre heading in the direction of Beirut, and circled over Beirut and the South. It left over the sea off Naqurah at 2100 hours.	
	1900	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace and circled over the Sidon, Riyaq, Bint Jubayl and Beirut regions and the southern regions. It left Lebanese airspace over `Alma al-Sha`b.	
	1500	Between 1500 and 1520 hours Israeli enemy military aircraft overflew the Bint Jubayl and Tibnin regions.	
03/05/2007	2135	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah, and circled over the region of the South, Damur and Na`imah. It left over Alma al-Sha`b at 2330 hours.	
	0835	A yellow aircraft was seen overflying the orchards opposite Addaysat Kafr Killa at an altitude of less than 100 metres. It is believed to have been spraying pesticides.	
	1204	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah heading east, and circled over the regions of the South. It left over Rumaysh at 1505 hours.	
04/05/2007	1455	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah heading east, and circled over the regions of the South. It left over `Alma al-Sha`b at 1850 hours.	
	1840	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh heading north, and circled over the regions of the South. It left over `Alma al-Sha`b at 2100 hours.	

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*	*Comments*
05/05/2007	1610	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah heading east, and circled over the regions of the South. It left over `Alma al-Sha`b at 2010 hours.	
06/05/2007	1000	Israeli balloons containing unknown substances and bearing writing in Hebrew were found outside the town of Shihabiyah.	
	1209	At various intervals between 1210 and 1320 hours Israeli enemy military aircraft overflew the Rumaysh region at extremely high altitudes.	
	1301	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Al-Bayada, circled over the regions of the South and left over Naqurah at 1615 hours.	
	1500	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over `Alma al-Sha`b, and circled over the region of the South. It left over Rumaysh at 2000 hours.	
	1559	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Al-Bayada, and circled over the region of the South. It left over Rumaysh at 2135 hours.	
	1634	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Sidon, and circled between Riyaq and Tayyibah. It left over the sea off Naqurah at 2100 hours.	
	1710-1940	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Adlun, Ansar and Nabatiyah.	
	2030-2110	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Nabatiyah.	
07/05/2007	1514	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha`b heading north, and circled between the regions of the South and Damur. It left over the sea off Naqurah at 1920 hours.	
14/05/2007	1730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Nabatiyah at extremely high altitude. It left Lebanese airspace at 1740 hours.	

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*	*Comments*
	0517	Four enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Jounieh heading east, and circled over the areas of Shikka, Al-Arz, Batrun, Wata al-Jawz, Hirmil and Baalbek. They left over the sea off Naqurah at 0705 hours.	
	0520-0710	Four enemy Israeli warplanes circled over the areas of Shikka, Qurnat al-Sawda, Wata al-Jawz, Batrun, Baalbek and Hirmil. They left west of Naqurah.	
20/05/2007	0525	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Jounieh, and circled between Byblos and Shikka, over land and sea. It left over the sea off Naqurah at 0915 hours.	
	0645	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Batrun, and circled over the areas of Shikka, Al-Arz, Batrun, Wata al-Jawz, Hirmil and Baalbek. They left over the sea off Naqurah at 0830 hours.	
	0700-0730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the town of Maysat at low altitude.	
21/05/2007	1352	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa, and headed north as far as the Iqlim al-Kharrub, and then returned in a southerly direction. They left over Rumaysh at 1402 hours.	
22/05/2007	0959	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b heading north, and circled between the south and the Western Bekaa. They left over Rumaysh at 1145 hours.	
23/05/2007	1007	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Jounieh heading east, and flew over the areas of Baalbek, Hirmil, Al-Danniyah and Shikka. They left over the sea off Naqurah at 1032 hours.	
	1030	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, circled over the region of the South and left at 1110 hours.	
28/05/2007	1830	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, circled over the region of the South and left at 2050 hours.	
	2225	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, circled over the region of the South and left at 2325 hours.	

Table showing land violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*	*Comments*
01/05/2007	0800	In a place known as Sa`sa` (reservation area), an Israeli D9 bulldozer and a Poclain excavator, guarded by four Hummers, crossed the technical fence and proceeded to shovel the earth, remove trees and dig a water drainage trench.	Immediate protest letter no. 2667/ayn-mim/inquiry date 24/05/2007
29/05/2007	1010	A Merkava tank and a trench-digger crossed the demarcation line near Bawwabat Hasan, south of Kafr Shuba.	Immediate protest letter no. 2885/ayn-mim/inquiry date 04/06/2007

Table showing sea violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*	*Comments*
5/05/2007	0115-0520	An Israeli naval launch fired three flare bombs and several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire in the direction of an unidentified fishing vessel off Ra's Naqurah in Lebanese territorial waters.	
	0655	Enemy Israeli vessels fired several flare bombs and bursts of gunfire into the air to warn Lebanese fishing vessels located off Ra's Naqurah in Lebanese territorial waters.	

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The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In addition to the previous letters of 28 June, 5 July (A/61/991-S/2007/410), 9 July 2007 (A/61/1000-S/2007/422) and 20 July 2007 (A/61/1006-S/2007/452), I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the so-called "presidential elections" held in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan on 19 July 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be urgently distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ilham **Aghayev**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The Republic of Azerbaijan welcomes the principled and unequivocal position clearly expressed by the international community with regard to the so-called "presidential elections" held in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 19 July 2007. By reaffirming its unswerving respect for the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and rejecting these illegal "elections", the international community has given a clear message to those who try to capitalize on the suffering of the displaced Azerbaijani population. Azerbaijan shares the concerns of its international partners about the negative effect of the illegal "elections" on the ongoing peace process.

Another attempt by the Republic of Armenia to camouflage its annexation policy and occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan ended in a complete and unavoidable failure. By its deeds, the Armenian side misleads no one but its own society. The international community is well aware of the situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

The Republic of Azerbaijan shall never accept a solution based on a fait accompli, which the Armenian side is trying to impose. The conflict in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan can be solved only on the basis of respect for the territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of Azerbaijan and the peaceful coexistence of the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region within Azerbaijan, enjoying the benefits of democracy and prosperity fully and equally.

Azerbaijan expects that after Saint Petersburg's failure to accept the relevant proposals of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group Co-Chairmen, the Armenian side will reconsider its approach and take a constructive course.

Azerbaijan once again calls on the Armenian side to cease its destructive policies and, instead of wasting precious time, to negotiate in good faith with a view to finding a durable solution to the conflict as soon as possible.

Baku, 20 July 2007

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Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the instructions of my Government, I am writing the present letter to bring to your kind attention the provocative course of action pursued by the Greek Cypriot administration in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The Greek Cypriot side's attempts to delimit maritime jurisdiction areas as well as to explore oil and natural gas deposits in the Eastern Mediterranean continue unabated. In contradiction to the established principles of international law, the Greek Cypriot side has adopted a law identifying 13 oil exploration fields around the island of Cyprus and called for an international tender. Despite our objections, the tender process continues and is expected to be finalized as of 16 August 2007. All these acts, aiming at creating de facto situations in the region, are totally unacceptable.

It is an established rule that maritime delimitation in a semi-enclosed sea like the Eastern Mediterranean can be effected only by agreement, with the consent of all parties concerned and by respecting their mutual rights. Since there is no such agreement over the exclusive economic zone in the said region, the Greek Cypriot administration has no right whatsoever to initiate any activity there, including oil exploration.

The Greek Cypriot attempts violate Turkey's legitimate rights and interests in the Eastern Mediterranean. In this context, I would like to recall the information note annexed to the letter from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations, dated 2 March 2004, also issued in the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*, No. 54, concerning its objection to the agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Greek Cypriot side on the "delimitation of the exclusive economic zone". Therein Turkey registered its existing ipso facto and ab initio legal and legitimate rights, especially in the western part of the longitude 32°16'18", in accordance with the established principles of international law.

In fact, the Turkish Cypriots also have rights and authority over the maritime areas around the island of Cyprus, and the Greek Cypriots do not represen. the

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island as a whole. As we have already stated, Turkey does not recognize the agreements signed by the Greek Cypriot authority in this direction and will not accept unilateral Greek Cypriot acts in these maritime areas. President Talat, in his letter addressed to you on 2 February 2007, has also underlined that the attitude of the Greek Cypriot side, which has long delayed a settlement in Cyprus, prejudges the fundamental rights of the Turkish Cypriot people and asserts the urgency of a final and comprehensive solution to the Cyprus issue that will also enable Turkish and Greek Cypriots to benefit jointly from the island's resources.

On this occasion, Turkey reaffirms its determination to contribute to the efforts to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem under your mission of good offices as well as under the long-established United Nations framework and parameters, namely political equality, bizonality, equal status and a new partnership State.

Turkey has expressed time and again that it is determined to protect its rights and interests in the Eastern Mediterranean. The Greek Cypriot side continues to pursue a policy that generates tension in the region.

Turkey continues to act responsibly on the basis of international law and legitimacy. We also expect from all parties concerned that they act in the same manner.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Baki **İlkin**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative